A. In the claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1(Twice Amended). A method for managing a profile service, the method comprising:

storing at least one true-data attribute in a profile object, said true-data attribute includes a true- data key and at least one true-data value field;

associating at least one meta-data attribute with said true-data attribute, said meta-data attribute includes a meta-data key and at least one meta-data value field, wherein the meta-data value field describes the associated true-data attribute;

storing said associated meta-data attribute in said profile object; and

managing said true-data attribute according to said associated meta-data attribute.

18(Twice Amended). A profiling service for accessing user data, said profiling service comprising:

a plurality of profile objects;

at least one true-data attribute contained in each of said profile objects, said true-data attribute includes a true-data key and at least one true-data value field;

at least one meta-data attribute associated to said true-data attribute and contained in said profile object, said meta-data attribute includes a meta-data key and at least one meta-data value field, wherein the meta-data value field describes the associated true-data attribute; and

methods within each profile object to access the user data according to said meta-data attribute.

41(Twice Amended). A profiling service for accessing user data, said profiling service comprising:

means for storing at least one true-data attribute in a profile object, said true-data attribute includes a true-data key and at least one true-data value field;

2

means for associating at least one meta-data attribute with said true-data attribute, said meta-data attribute includes a meta-data key and at least one meta data value field, wherein the meta-data value field describes the associated true-data attribute;

means for storing said associated meta-data attribute with said associated true-data attribute; and

means for managing said true-data attribute according to said associated meta-data attribute.

B3

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-53 remain in this application. Claims 1, 18, and 41 are amended to more distinctly describe the subject matter of applicant's invention and to emphasize limitations appearing in the claims as filed. The amendments include a limitation of claim 42 as originally filed and so no further search is required, and they can not raise any new issues that would require further consideration on the part of the Examiner. Moreover, the amendments are in direct response to a reliance on a new portion of the reference that was first presented in the Final Office Action, hence, the amendments could not be presented earlier. In that the amendments can not raise new issues, narrow the issues for consideration on appeal and place the claims in better form for consideration on appeal, the Amendments are properly enterable under 37 CFR 1.116.

A. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102

Claims 1-53 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as anticipated by Thomas This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 1, 18, 41 and 42 call for, among other things, an act of or means for associating a meta-data attribute with a stored true-data attribute. Claim 42 as originally filed calls for a profile object that includes both a true-data attribute and a meta-data attribute describing the true-data attribute. Claims 1, 18, and 41 are amended to reflect similarly that not only is the meta-data attribute associated with the true-data attribute, but that both are contained in the profile data structure. At least

3